

*R Pennyman*

**U**Pon the 28<sup>th</sup> day of the Month called July, 1670. I being required by the Lord, to pack up all the Books, of what kind or sort soever that I had, with an intention to have had them carried to a Friends of mine in Cornhill, near the Exchange; it was so ordered, That as I was going through the said Exchange, it was with me to sit down and rest me, and accordingly ordered the two Porters to rest themselves; the one of them had two great Bags full of Books, and the other had one Bag filled much with old News-Books, especially at the top; for I saw no other in it, when I opened it; which I did there, having ordered one of the said Porters to carry a little parcel to my said Friends, (where I purposed to have carried the said Books) and desired him to bring me a Candle; against which time I had taken out two or three waste papers in my hand, and withal bid one of the Porters bring that Bag after me; so going to the middle of the Exchange, (I bid the Porter pour out the Books) and having put fire to the papers in my hand, with two or three of those News-Books, the man that was sweeping the Exchange was ordered to put it out, there being (so near as I could judge) not the quantity of a quarter of a sheet of paper burnt. Now whereas it is imagined, and said, that I would have burned all those Books, I have this to say, That if they would have given me a Candle to have burned all, or any one of them there more then what was already done, I would not; I say, I should not have done it to have gained the Treasures of the whole World.

*This is a faithful and true Saying: He that can receive it, let him.*

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This following being a Copy of a Letter, which I writ to a Kinsman, who I heard had been the occasion of putting one in Prison for the Testimony of his Conscience towards God, I am willing it should be thus published for the satisfaction of all such that desire to know the truth in this matter.

Cozen,

**I**Understand that thou hast been instrumental to put one Abraham Bonnyfield in Prison, for the testimony of his Conscience towards God; the which if he should violate, yea, I say, if he should violate in the least, it had been better for him he had never been born: Now if the case be so, what will become of thee, and all such as thou art, who as much as in you lies, endeavour to force men to violate the Law of the Living God, written and implanted in the heart? O take heed, and turn to the Lord before it be too late, and the things belonging to thy everlasting peace be bid from thy eyes; for yet a little while, and the Voice shall be, He that is filthy, let him be filthy still. O! whilst it is called to day, take heed, for the day of visitation (from the Lord) is come; blessed and happy, yea for ever happy will they be that can receive it; Yea, the day is come, that many that have been first, shall be last; and many that are last, shall be first.

I am now a Prisoner in the Prison at Bishops-gate; and the rumor is, That I would have burned the Bible, &c. Concerning which, I have this to say, That rather than I would burn that Book, (or the least Leaf thereof that might be serviceable) I should rather chuse, had I as many lives to lose as I have hairs on my head, yea, and every life to be taken from me by the exquisite torment that the wit (and wickedness) of man could invent; I say, rather than wilfully (or by the command of any mortal) burn that Book, I should rather chuse to be sacrificed in the said torments.

*To the testimony and truth of which, I do here subscribe my self,*

The 30<sup>th</sup> of the  
month, called  
July, 1670.

J. PENNYMAN,

*Who am thy Real and True Friend.*